

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

EXECUTIVE ORDER W-102-94

WHEREAS, California's rural area contains natural and developed resources that contribute to the diversity, economic well-being, and beauty of the State; and

WHEREAS, California's rural area constitutes one of the great agriculture centers of the United States and serves as a breadbasket to the world; and

WHEREAS, California's rural area constitutes ninety percent of California's land mass and is home to twenty percent of the State's population; and

WHEREAS, many groups, including federal, state, county, tribal, and local governments, and the private sector, are active in rural economic development; and

WHEREAS, the State of California desires to create a partnership which will assist rural areas manage their growth and development while preserving natural resources and maximizing economic potential; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 1992 I created the Governor's Task Force on Rural Competitiveness to identify and recommend solutions to problems facing rural California; and

WHEREAS, My task force convened The California Rural Roundtable with over two-hundred experts critical to rural California and held nine Town Hall Meetings throughout rural California; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's Task Force on Rural Competitiveness distilled almost 1,500 recommendations into 49 priority tasks;

WHEREAS, the State of California seeks to further increase its awareness of the issues facing rural California; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PETE WILSON, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this order to become effective immediately.

A Rural Affairs Liaison shall be designated within the Office, of Intergovernmental Affairs, to assist rural areas of the state and to provide access to State government, departments and agencies.

The California Rural Development Council is hereby created and housed within the Governor's Office Governmental Affairs.

1. The Council will consist of representatives from the following:

(a) State Government,

- (b) Local Government,
- (c) Federal Government,
- (d) Tribal Governments,
- (e) Private for-profit businesses doing business in rural California,
- (f) Private nonprofit businesses doing business in rural California,
- (g) Local community based organizations, and
- (h) the Public at large

2. The Council will:

- (a) work cooperatively with federal, state, county, local and tribal agencies as well as the private sector to establish a clearinghouse for ideas and programs, to strengthen and stabilize rural economies;
- (b) coordinate existing state rural assistance and development programs;
- (c) create job opportunities through enhanced utilization of agricultural and forestry resources;
- (d) improve California's ability to qualify for federal assistance, grants, and programs earmarked for rural America;
- (e) develop a Rural Growth Strategy to ensure rural California is able to create and sustain diversified economies.

The Rural Affairs Liaison shall also provide staff assistance and support to the Rural Development Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 16th day of August 1994.

Governor of California

ATTEST:

Acting Secretary of State